

# MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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# 118th MAINE LEGISLATURE

## FIRST SPECIAL SESSION-1997

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Legislative Document

No. 1761

H.P. 1241

House of Representatives, April 9, 1997

**An Act to Authorize a General Fund Bond Issue to Make Necessary  
Improvements to the State House.**

(AFTER DEADLINE)

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Approved for introduction by a majority of the Legislative Council pursuant to Joint Rule 205.

Reference to the Committee on Appropriations and Financial Affairs suggested and ordered printed.

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Joseph W. Mayo".

JOSEPH W. MAYO, Clerk

Presented by Speaker MITCHELL of Vassalboro.  
Cosponsored by Senator MICHAUD of Penobscot and  
Representatives: KERR of Old Orchard Beach, KONTOS of Windham, Senators:  
LAWRENCE of York, PINGREE of Knox.

2           **Preamble.** Two thirds of both Houses of the Legislature  
4           deeming it necessary in accordance with the Constitution of  
6           Maine, Article IX, Section 14, to authorize the issuance of bonds  
8           on behalf of the State of Maine to provide funds for major  
10           improvements and renovations to the State House.

12           **Be it enacted by the People of the State of Maine as follows:**

14           **Sec. 1. Authorization of bonds to provide for major repairs and**  
16           **renovations to the State House.** The Treasurer of State is  
18           authorized, under the direction of the Governor, to issue bonds  
20           in the name and on behalf of the State in an amount not exceeding  
22           \$14,000,000 to raise funds for major improvements and renovations  
24           to the State House; including, specifically, renovations to  
26           address specific life safety issues; to make the State House  
28           accessible to people with disabilities according to standards set  
30           by state and federal law; and to repair and replace windows. The  
32           bonds are a pledge of the full faith and credit of the State.  
34           The bonds may not run for a period longer than 20 years from the  
36           date of the original issue of the bonds. At the discretion of  
38           the Treasurer of State, with the approval of the Governor, any  
40           issuance of bonds may contain a call feature.

42           **Sec. 2. Records of bonds issued to be kept by the Treasurer of State.**  
44           The Treasurer of State shall keep an account of each bond showing  
46           the number of the bond, the name of the successful bidder to whom  
48           sold, the amount received for the bond, the date of sale and the  
            date when payable.

50           **Sec. 3. Sale; how negotiated; proceeds appropriated.** The  
52           Treasurer of State may negotiate the sale of the bonds by  
54           direction of the Governor, but no bond may be loaned, pledged or  
56           hypothecated on behalf of the State. The proceeds of the sale of  
58           the bonds, which must be held by the Treasurer of State and paid  
60           by the Treasurer of State upon warrants drawn by the State  
62           Controller, are appropriated solely for the purposes set forth in  
64           this Act. Any unencumbered balances remaining at the completion  
66           of the project in section 6 lapse to the debt service account  
68           established for the retirement of these bonds.

70           **Sec. 4. Interest and debt retirement.** The Treasurer of State  
72           shall pay interest due or accruing on any bonds issued under this  
74           Act and all sums coming due for payment of bonds at maturity.

76           **Sec. 5. Disbursement of bond proceeds.** The proceeds of the  
78           bonds must be expended as set out in section 6 under the  
80           direction and supervision of the Legislative Council.

2           **Sec. 6. Allocations from General Fund bond issue; major repairs and**  
renovations to the State House. The proceeds of the sale of bonds  
must be expended as designated in the following schedule.

4  
6           Reserve Fund for State House Preservation                                 \$14,000,000  
and Maintenance

8           **Sec. 7. Contingent upon ratification of bond issue.** Sections 1 to  
6 do not become effective unless the people of the State have  
10 ratified the issuance of bonds as set forth in this Act.

12           **Sec. 8. Appropriation balances at year end.** At the end of each  
fiscal year, all unencumbered appropriation balances representing  
14 state money carry forward. Bond proceeds that have not been  
expended within 10 years after the date of the sale of the bonds  
16 lapse to General Fund debt service.

18           **Sec. 9. Bonds authorized but not issued.** Any bonds authorized  
but not issued, or for which bond anticipation notes are not  
20 issued within 5 years of ratification of this Act, are  
deauthorized and may not be issued; except that the Legislature  
22 may, within 2 years after the expiration of that 5-year period,  
extend the period for issuing any remaining unissued bonds or  
24 bond anticipation notes for an additional amount of time not to  
exceed 5 years.

26           **Sec. 10. Referendum for ratification; submission at statewide**  
28 **election; form of question; effective date.** This Act must be submitted  
to the legal voters of the State of Maine at a statewide election  
30 held on the Tuesday following the first Monday of November  
following passage of this Act. The municipal officers of this  
32 State shall notify the inhabitants of their respective cities,  
towns and plantations to meet, in the manner prescribed by law  
34 for holding a statewide election, to vote on the acceptance or  
rejection of this Act by voting on the following question:

36                                 "Do you favor a \$14,000,000 bond issue for major renovations  
38 to the State House?"

40           The legal voters of each city, town and plantation shall  
vote by ballot on this question and designate their choice by a  
42 cross or check mark placed within a corresponding square below  
the word "Yes" or "No." The ballots must be received, sorted,  
44 counted and declared in open ward, town and plantation meetings  
and returns made to the Secretary of State in the same manner as  
46 votes for members of the Legislature. The Governor shall review  
the returns and, if a majority of the legal votes are cast in

1 favor of the Act, the Governor shall proclaim the result without  
2 delay, and the Act becomes effective 30 days after the date of  
the proclamation.

4  
5 The Secretary of State shall prepare and furnish to each  
6 city, town and plantation all ballots, returns and copies of this  
Act necessary to carry out the purpose of this referendum.  
8

10 **SUMMARY**

12 The funds provided by this bond issue, in the amount of  
14 \$14,000,000, will be used to make major repairs and renovations  
to the State House.